

THE PUGET SOUND TRAIL

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PUGET SOUND

1910

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For ASUPS,
election results
prove to be a

FIRST

**In a five-percentage
point victory, James Luu
is elected ASUPS first
sophomore President-elect.**

BY MATT ANDERSON
NEWS EDITOR

James Luu was elected ASUPS President in a victory over his opponents by at least five percentage points — Luu is the first ever sophomore to be elected to the office. Holden Sapp, Luu's running mate, also clinched victory in the Vice-Presidential portion of the election.

"Holden and I look forward to serving you and taking ASUPS forward throughout this upcoming year, and beyond," Luu said to members of the Facebook group "James Luu and Holden Sapp for ASUPS" shortly after the results were released, Feb. 23.

On the agenda for the President and Vice President-elects for next year will be free Pierce Transit bus passes for all students, among other issues.

"ASUPS has been moving forward for the past few years," Luu and Sapp state on their group's Facebook page. "As soon as we are in office, we will do our best to serve you and improve this campus. One of the many things we plan on doing is to bring free bus passes for all students to use."

Additionally, the incoming administration will have to prepare a budget at a time when the state of the economy is in flux and therefore the impact of interest rates on the ASUPS budget hard to predict.

"With the current economic conditions, we will have to manage ASUPS money wisely. Through Holden's management of large budgets and James' experience on the Budget Committee, we are confident that we will maximize ASUPS finances efficiently," Luu and Sapp state on the Facebook page.

SEE ELECTION PAGE 2

See the Results:

The Trail
has compiled
the results
of the elec-
tion for the
ASUPS
executive
positions, see
page 2

Interest rates leave budget short \$8,500, ASUPS says

BY MIKE KNAPE
NEWS WRITER

The full extent of the economic recession's effect on campus is still being uncovered, and the ASUPS budget is the most recent victim.

Thanks to plummeting interest rates across the nation, interest revenue is nearly \$8500 less than ASUPS had planned for this year's budget. ASUPS budgeted for an interest rate of 3.95 percent — the current interest rate is 1.24 percent.

"The important thing to note is that this \$8,500 loss is a loss within a portion of our budgeted revenue; it does not translate into a total loss of \$8,500 on the year for ASUPS as a whole. ASUPS typically generates roughly \$450,000 in student government fee revenue alone, so an interest revenue loss of \$8,500, while significant, should not inhibit ASUPS's operations or overall financial health if addressed quickly and appropriately. As such, we are using excess revenue from another portion of the budget to cover this loss and ensure that ASUPS's ability to finish the year under budget is not threatened in any way. I am confident, as is the University administration, that we have done this," Joe Woolley, ASUPS Director of Business Services, said.

SEE BUDGET PAGE 2

Beta working toward 'good standing' status by semester's end

BY COURTNEY KANDLER
NEWS WRITER

The 2009 Men's Formal recruitment has allowed Beta Theta Pi to start anew after a rough run towards the end of the last semester.

Although the chapter's status is currently "under reorganization", Beta President Alex Gardner believes that the recent revisions made in the recruitment process, and the resulting 13- person pledge class will place them back in "good standing" with the General Fraternity by the end of this semester.

The focus of this spring's recruitment was the quality of potential members, not quantity of members.

"We were looking for members committed to the fraternity and to upholding and buying into the system. During the pledging period, the education aspect of

SEE BETA PAGE 2

Security Report

The following incidents occurred on campus and were reported to Security Services between Feb. 17 and Feb. 23, 2009:

- A campus visitor reported his vehicle was broken into outside of Seward Hall. The vehicle was entered by punching out the driver's side door lock. An expensive pair of sunglasses were taken from the glove box.
- A student reported his laptop computer was stolen from the student lounge in Schiff Hall where he left it unattended, but secured inside the room.

• Courtesy of Todd A. Badham, Director of Security Services

Corrections:

ASUPS debate story:

It has come to our attention that a mistake was made in the front page article on the ASUPS candidate debates.

The article stated that there would "likely be a deficit from this year's budget," and quoted Holden Sapp saying "ASUPS will be more than \$5,000 short of costs at the end of the year."

Instead, the article should have stated that "the \$8,500 loss is a loss within a portion of the ASUPS budgeted revenue; it does not translate into a total loss of \$8,500 on the year for ASUPS as a whole," according to Joe Woolley, the ASUPS Director of Business Services. For more information on the ASUPS budget situation, please see Mike Knape's article which begins on the front page called "Interest rates leave budget short \$8,500, ASUPS says."

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Beta housing story:

A story in last week's issue on page two titled "Beta to retain Union Ave. house" wrongly called the fraternity Beta Theta Ki. The article should have stated the fraternity is actually called Beta Theta Pi.

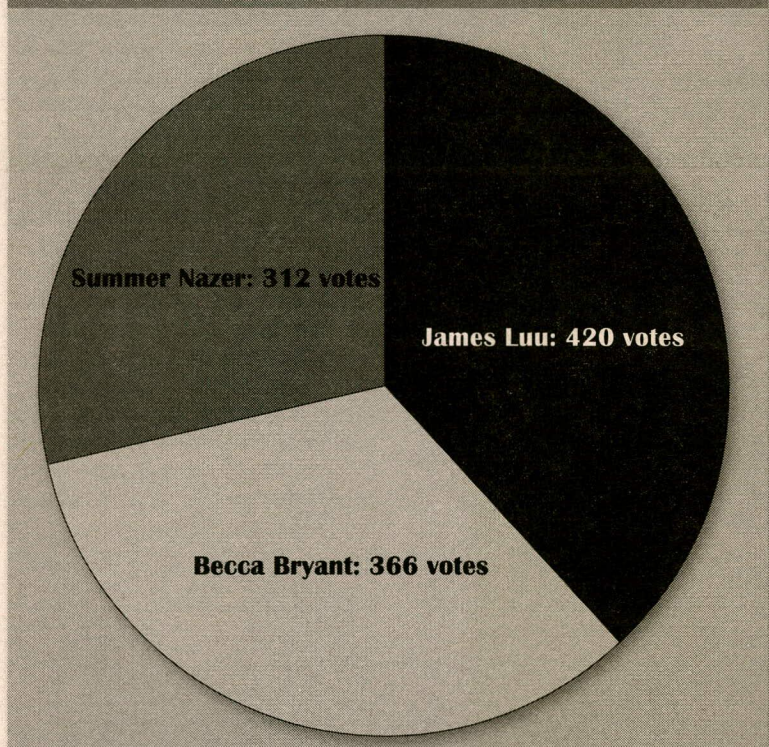
We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

-Ed.

ELECTION

CONT. FROM PAGE 1

Election Results



Luu and Sapp, during their campaign, ran on a three-fold platform: Approachability, transparency, and "success through experience."

One of the main points Luu and Sapp attempted to bring to the forefront of the race was Luu and Sapp's differing experience with ASUPS: Luu has served in an elected ASUPS senator while Sapp has served as the head of many clubs and organizations working with ASUPS like Photo Services and PSO.

"Over the past three years, Holden has been heavily involved in other avenues outside of an ASUPS elected position,"

the Facebook page states. "His background with ASUPS clubs, media and Student Development compliments James in such a way that will allow them to look at all situations from all angles."

Of the 1,098 votes cast, Luu won 420 while Bryant carried 366. Summer Nazer won only 312. In the Vice-Presidential category, Sapp garnered 461 votes, 41 more than the President-elect, beating his closest opponent, Sam Stookesberry, by 110 votes. Arjun Dhillon, Summer Nazer's running mate, received just 297 votes - 53 less than Stookesberry and 164 less than the Vice President-elect.



ASUPS PHOTO SERVICES / PAUL WICKS

SymPOEsiUm:

The University hosted a week-long event, beginning Feb. 16, to help commemorate 200 years since Edgar Allen Poe's birth. Various professors spoke. University president Ron Thomas also gave a lecture. The gender and english departments also sponsored a showing of Alfred Hitchcock's "Birds" for SymPOEsiUm.

BUDGET

CONT. FROM PAGE 1

Woolley discovered this shortfall in late January while reviewing ASUPS finances. Although the loss is significant, both Woolley and Ross Heyman, ASUPS Vice President, emphasized that the overall ASUPS budget is not inhibited in anyway and still operating debt-free.

"Interest only accounts for a small percent of our entire budget. The vast majority comes from the \$195 student government fee that each student pays as part of their tuition. All budgetary issues are short term because we're not okay with being in debt. Where this will have a big effect is our finance account, where clubs go for funds on a week-to-week basis," Heyman said.

Woolley stressed that there will not have to be any adjustments of club budgets - the tough part now will be accommodating short-term requests; clubs that budgeted for expenses at the beginning of the year should be fine, according to Woolley and Heyman.

ASUPS is trying a number of different strategies in order to free up money for the discretionary fund. The ASUPS proposal for budget adjustments is making it's way through the bureaucracy. They hoped to have 10 or 11 thousand dollars available by the end of the week.

"The last couple of weeks we've been trying to figure out the situation, but now we're on an upswing again. Thanks to higher than average enrollment, we gained nearly \$11,000 in extra revenue. We have the money, we just have to redistribute it. There's really not a lot in our way besides the formal processes. Everything has to go through the Senate and the Administration," Woolley said.

While Puget Sound has Certified Public Accountants (CPAs) that watch over all of the funds to ensure accuracy, Woolley has been heavily involved. The current budgetary proposal was drafted by Heyman and Woolley.

"To offset this negative impact on the Finance account, the budgetary adjustment was crafted to supplement the loss in the Finance account. After an extensive line-by-line review of the budget, I was able to locate just over \$7,000 that are, for all necessary purposes, excesses in their current accounts. Pending Senate approval, this \$7,000 will be re-allocated to the Finance account so that ASUPS can continue to fund student requests," Woolley said.

One important change from past years is the use of excess funds from the Student Government Fee. In years past it bol-

stered the discretionary fund, but it is now being used to cover the interest rate losses. The ASUPS executives are looking for funds in accounts from fall events that have leftover money as another source of cash.

"There was a lot of money still available from orientation especially. Playfair, the hypnotist, and food accounts all were under budget. Chee Chako revenue was higher than expected, and we're still waiting to hear how much money we'll be getting from the Fieldhouse insurance claims. ASUPS and Senate programs have saved us money because we've been advising everyone to cut expenses across the board," Woolley said.

Heyman pointed to the upcoming ASUPS presidential inauguration as well as the Senate retreat as examples of adjustments.

"We had planned on having a much bigger, more public inauguration this year, but we're now thinking it will be a much smaller event in order to help save money. Same thing with the annual retreat given to incoming Senators. Do we really need to spend \$750 on ourselves for a weekend? We can eat at the SUB. We want to get away from spending money on a small group of people in non-necessary ways," Heyman said.

BETA

CONT. FROM PAGE 1

recruitment focused more on values than it had in the past," Gardner said.

Beta underwent reorganization in late Fall, last year, after regional advisers received notice of membership issues. The General Fraternity conducted an ongoing membership review process in the months of November and December in an effort to determine which of the members were willing to comply with the standards and principles of Beta Theta Pi. Upon its conclusion, those members deemed unwilling were designated alumnus

members by the General Fraternity; as said "alumni", those living in the Beta house, were asked to move out. Before the reorganization, Beta had 37 total active members but at the close of the fall semester, only 16 of those members were allowed continued residence in the 33-bedroom house.

Consequently, Beta has been put on probation for not meeting University housing standards, according to Marta Palmquist-Cady, Director of Student Activities. Typically, fraternities and sororities must meet a 90 percent occupancy level in their respective house.

"Because the Beta chapter underwent reorganization, the fraternity will be allowed to continue exclusive use of their house for the rest of the general calendar year, until next spring's Formal recruitment," Cady said.

If, after the Spring 2010 formal recruitment Beta does not meet a 100 percent occupancy level, the fraternity will have to undergo an exclusive use application process in which the director of residence life and committee will determine whether the effort has been made or not to meet the University housing standards.

Please submit comments, questions, and complaints in the form of Letters to the Editor to trail@ups.edu

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Salmonella Scandal

BY LISA GRISWOLD
OPINIONS WRITER

Have you been asking yourself, "where the devil is the peanut butter in the SUB?" We are without peanut butter and banana toast and peanut butter apples. I bet your diet has never been so lacking in that nutty protein paste. A peanut butter recall is the reason for your troubles; however, this

Health Watch:

Check out updates for a list of recalled items: Food and Drug Administration <http://www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/Salmonellatyp.html>

sketchy tomato discrepancies, and bacteria within apple juice are just a few examples. Even with advances in food production technology, the frequency of unsanitary food conditions seems to be a recurring theme. The peanut recall has reached major corporations such as the behemoth food agencies, who control Kellogg's and Russell Stover companies. While thousands of previously profit-worthy products are being pulled off the shelves, many companies do not desire to take the blame and suffer a loss. However, this discrepancy over responsibility continues to be up in the air. Not only are producers on edge about the recall, consumers are just as concerned. American consumers without peanuts are like dogs without their bones. One student exclaims over the unavailability of peanut butter, "they just took away one of my main food groups!"

Peanuts are so prolific in our society; we kind of do not know what to do with ourselves once we are without them. Peanuts can be integrated into just about any meal, especially within the all-purpose PB & J. Many lunch-making parents across the nation are in a quandary over what to serve kids now. The absence of this staple American food broaches the interesting point over what our nation eats. We eat things because they are readily available all year long, no matter what the growing season is. However, this of course is a completely unnatural process of food production. Everything has a season and variety is the key to healthy eating, yet we are acquainted with routines. Macaroni and cheese, an apple a day, and a bowl of cereal are so commonplace that when something happens. Americans are devoted to the nut-derived pasty substance that is peanut butter, but most other countries surprisingly do not incorporate it into their culture. The reality of the peanut butter recall is that it recognizes the stagnancy of food production and innovation. As consumers, we should be more creative about food consumption because there is no telling when the foods we depend on most will be unavailable. In terms of the current scandal, do not support an industry that has an obvious disregard for your interests. Instead, look towards alternatives like my personal favorite spread that is European, chocolaty, hazelnut based, and rhymes with patella. No endorsements required.

bacteria with peanuts after the majority of outbreaks were associated with products containing both whole peanuts and peanut oil. The FDA proceeded to recall more than 2,000 products, affecting products from peanut butter candies to dog food. Simultaneously, the FDA inspected factories in America and discovered unsanitary conditions including rat feces, leaking roofs, and other health discrepancies. The production of food products in these types of conditions is not only disturbing, but it is also an extreme violation of the law due to the obvious endangerment towards public health. The most troubling aspect of this entire situation is the Peanut Corporation of America's (PCA) knowledge of the disease ridden peanut products. According to federal inspectors, the PCA knowingly distributed products with salmonella, which is a direct indication of the allowance for sickness in search of profit. As the current situation has sprung up, the truth has become reality at costly levels. The breakout has affected 44 states and caused 630 people to become sick.

What does this really mean about the quality of our food? If a national regulatory agency allows for unsafe products to enter the market, how can we be sure other sectors are being monitored correctly? I think the answer is: we can't. Recall the past couple of years: the spinach E. coli break out,

New York Post cartoonist raises concerns with NAACP

BY PETER NEW
OPINIONS WRITER

A picture is worth a thousand words. Unless Al Sharpton thinks it is racist. Then it is worth the front page of CNN's website section of current U.S. events.

A recent cartoon published in the New York Post depicts a monkey with two bullet holes in its chest and two cops looking upon its bloody body, one with a smoking gun and one saying "They'll have to find someone else to write the next stimulus bill." Reverend Sharpton, among other public and private voices, saw the cartoon suggesting a parallel between President Obama and the deceased primate. The chairman of the NAACP, Julian Bond, went so far as to say the cartoon was a suggestion to assassinate the president.

The other side to the cartoon perhaps vindicates Sean Delonas, the cartoonist under fire. On February 16, a chimpanzee nearly killed a woman in Connecticut after which he was shot twice and eventually died by those wounds.

The debate, the verdict of which could possibly mean firing Delonas and the Post's editor, has been taken up by protesting New Yorkers, who seemingly have the same view of the cartoon as Rev. Sharpton. To some, it is harmless. To some it has irresponsibly racist undertones with significant implications.

The debate is about reference points and symbols, about the common ground of knowledge that published work and public voices reconstruct for the social imagination. Those offended by the article apparently find no coincidence in the historical comparison of the ethnic African people group to primates and the shooting of a chimpanzee in Connecticut, or at least overlook the timing as simply the means by which Delonas slipped in his true racist notions.

The real work begins in getting past the generalization that "everyone sees it differently" and actually putting forth genuine, individual reactions and ideas.

I find no reason to consider the cartoonist to be doing anything more than pairing two popular public news issues. But I also cannot clear him of the charges the NAACP makes. I will withhold from saying, "everyone sees the cartoon differently," which would effectively kill the conversation. Instead, I am interested in the importance of all parties involved.

I understand the NAACP to be a watchdog for potential threats to equal opportunity among African Americans and otherwise. Their activities might be looked down upon as an oversensitive political ploy, but if their intentions are assumed to be true to their task, I don't think they would encounter opposition.

But the opposition is as necessary as the initial response. In public discourse, it is the implications and intentions that are debated. Voicing the assumptions involved in concluding Delonas' cartoon to be racist is essential to stimulating different ways of framing problems and solutions.

This being stated, I will credit the New York Post with the

most important point in this controversy. In a published statement, the Post apologized to those offended by the cartoon but did not rescind or

offer a blanket apology for the cartoon itself. In doing so, they disassociate themselves from the potentially offensive imagery of a primate and make it clear that their intentions were not to compare anyone.

Perhaps the NAACP cannot believe such a thing, but that might be their role in the arena of public discourse. The real work begins in getting past the generalization that, "everyone sees it differently" and actually putting forth genuine, individual reactions and ideas. In the end, the intention of an image can only be interpreted, and honest interpretations ought to never be shooed away from the conversation.

Read More:



PHOTO COURTESY / GAWKER.COM

Controversial NY Post cartoonist Sean Delonas.



PHOTO COURTESY / NYMAG.COM

"The cartoon is a clear parody of a current news event, to wit the shooting of a violent chimpanzee in Connecticut. It broadly mocks Washington's efforts to revive the economy." NY Post Editor-in-Chief Col Allan-Huffington Post said.



PHOTO COURTESY / FAIRLANEWORDPRESS.COM

"Cartoon in today's New York Post is troubling at best given the historic racist attacks of African-Americans as being synonymous with monkeys. One has to question whether the cartoonist is making a less than casual reference to this when in the cartoon they have police saying after shooting a chimpanzee that "Now they will have to find someone else to write the stimulus bill." Reverend Al Sharpton- Huffington Post said.

Overuse of "pretentious" sheds intellectual component

BY ADIA WHITE
OPINIONS WRITER

You all know them, those kids who clip clop down Wyatt hallways in their second hand cow boy boots or articulate flamboyant vocab words from behind an age inappropriate beard. The hipster image has taken off among our generation and being pretentious is both strived for and detested.

Since kindergarten we have all been subjected to the inevitable intertwining of social and academic spheres. If you went to middle school you have probably experienced the awkward balance between pleasing your parents without being seen as the class geek. Even Mean Girls- the classic movie portrayal of our high school culture, references the "dumbing oneself down" strategy for attract-

ing members of the opposite sex.

Among youth culture today the pendulum has swung in the opposite direction. In a yahoo pole, users were asked which high school stereotype they would prefer to fit into. 70% said they would prefer to be the class geek over the jock or theater kid if given the opportunity to go back to high school. But you probably didn't need a yahoo pole to convince you that it is simply cooler than it used to be a geek.

As our social life is inevitably tied with our academics, we've ended up in a sub-culture where if you're smart you dress the part, and I wouldn't be surprised if the sale of contacts has plummeted over the past few years. Name dropping, vintage clothing, skinny jeans, bandanas, philosophy, and ray-bans are all a part of our new favorite cultural stereotype. Suit-

ing to our new favorite trend is our new favorite insult- pretentious.

Pretentious is defined as attempting to impress by affecting greater importance, talent, etc. Than actually possessed-dictionary.com. Sure, it's a little instinctual to insult peers who seem to put on a front to look cool. But generation's values can be traced

SEE PRETENTIOUS PG 4

Today in
Trail History 1950

The Puget Sound Home Economics Club won the Washington State pie cookoff, in the final round against the University of Washington Home Economics Club.

1952

Pi Beta Phi admits two new members from formal recruitment, the first being named Lois Lane and the second named Marilyn Manson

Issues in popular culture being ignored; video, computer games receiving majority of blame



PHOTO COURTESY/GAMEWALLPAPERS.COM

BY WALT MITCHELL
OPINIONS WRITER

In June of last year, the Florida Bar prohibited attorney Jack Thomson from practicing law for the next 10 years. The disbarment was a result of his inflammatory crusading against the video game industry, a campaign that included 27 instances of professional misconduct.

Thomson has long been a provocative figure in the widespread and passionate opposition of video games. His rhetoric is seditious and often over-generalized; during an ABC Nightline interview, Thomson claimed that popular game developer Rockstar Games was, "run by a bunch of sociopaths."

When the disbarment was handed down last June, Thomson claimed that the presiding judge was, "not even a judge," and proceeded to stomp

out of his own hearing. The event was a final exclamation mark for a lengthy diatribe, a frenzied opposition to what Thomson saw as a profound moral threat: video games.

This sort of juvenile absurdity is all too familiar to millions of gamers who have realized that the politics of gaming are growing increasingly heated. Just as comic books were hotly contested in the 1950's, just as Rock and Roll was considered immoral, video games face the trials of a newborn medium.

Those who oppose the video game industry have a consistent argument: video games, especially games with violent or sexual themes, encourage (if not incite) antisocial behavior in children more than any other existing medium.

What we can grant in this argument is the existence of the violent and sexual themes in

video games—the assumption that video games are unique causation for antisocial behavior is a leap that rationality prevents us from taking.

Considering the prolific existence of these violent or sexual themes in other realms of pop culture, we can easily conclude that the representation of sex or violence in video games is no special case, distinct from mature content in music, film or other media. To argue that video games should not portray these themes is to argue that all media should abstain from featuring mature subject matter.

But mature subject matter is just that: themes intended for a mature audience. Individuals under 17 years of age may not view an R-rated film, and by the same token, those under 17 years of age may not purchase an M-rated video game.

Those who claim that restrictions placed on video games are not harsh enough, and that under-age persons can purchase M-rated games with little difficulty, should display just as much concern at the ease with which minors can sneak into an R-rated film—not to mention the utterly universal distribution of popular music with blatantly sexual themes.

This is not the case though, as naysayers seem to think that video games possess some inimitable, visceral portrayal of violence and sex. For whatever reason, they are more concerned with video games' somewhat limited distribution (many game systems cost hundreds of dollars, and many games go for 60\$ a pop) than with the truly universal distribution of pop music and movies.

The fervor with which anti-video game activists rouse themselves to action is nothing short of incredible. In Janu-

ary of 2008, columnist Kevin McCullough wrote a blatantly hateful article in criticism of the Xbox 360 game, Mass Effect.

McCullough made several broad—and more often than not, contrived—claims as to the nature of the game. Mass Effect is a story-driven Sci-fi adventure game, whose 100+ hours of possible game play include a single 45-second scene of obscure sexual interaction. McCullough latched on to this small sequence as a means to condemn the game and the video game industry as a whole.

His argument is hardly compelling. McCullough shamelessly creates his own facts about the game; he calls it "virtual orgasmic rape" and states that players run wildly around this virtual world, "copulating like jack rabbits." These assertions lie so far outside the realm of reality that taking the time to even consider his claims would be inane.

While this example of opposition is extreme, it serves to convey the absurdity of the contempt that the video game industry must face. To assert that video games possess some otherworldly method of portraying mature themes requires an astonishing ignorance to the content of the games themselves.

The public will always place blame for society's ills on the unfamiliar, on the innovative. When given the choice, those who wish to moralize our culture's problems will sooner allocate blame to that which they do not yet fully understand than acknowledge the complexity of reality. One can only hope that the potential of this new medium will not be stifled by individuals like Thomson, individuals who fail to see the big picture, individuals who blame a single spring for the rushing river rapids.

PRETENTIOUS

CONT. FROM PG 3

to what they did, wore, cared about, and fought for during their youth, and understandably, no one really wants to be excluded from this history. I've even heard of an instance where a student insulted a friend's roommate based on the books lying on his bed, "Nietzsche for fun, that's so pretentious." She had never even met the kid before. Besides, at this point in our lives all of us liberal arts students pay to become more talented, clever and cultured than we currently are. We're being conditioned to convince potential employers we possess these attributes, why not start practicing now?

I'll admit, it is obnoxious when people spend entire conversations bragging about their SAT scores. But in general, the things we associate with pretentiousness really aren't that bad. After all, it's a hell of a lot better than when apathy to academics was cool. Pretentiousness encourages people to appreciate art, intelligence, and culture. Even if you do only read Nietzsche to look cool, at least you're reading.

No one really likes elitists either, but sometimes it just takes sticking your nose in the air to get somewhere. Take English class for example. Students who state their comments with a dignified air will probably get a lot more credit for what they say than students who say the same idea self consciously. On March 1, the BBC edited Guide entry released a humorous article on how to be pretentious; it states "Follow this (guide) and impressionable people of the opposite sex (or the same sex that's up to you) will be desperate to get to know you. You will have so many invitations to the best parties you'll have to decide which you decline and you'll save a fortune in cigarettes and alcohol. Can't be bad." So the next time you decide to insult some-one by calling them pretentious take a step back, is being pretentious really that bad?

BitTorrent Buzz: Free Movies

BY HARRY YU
OPINIONS WRITER

It was junior year of high school when I was first introduced to BitTorrent. Up until that year my family had dial-up so I was completely new to downloading things from the internet. I had been trying to download podcasts, but direct connections to the site were still horribly slow. My friend showed me BitTorrent and my downloading experience was changed forever.

BitTorrent is different from other ways of downloading files for a few reasons. How I perceive it is that there is one computer that hosts the file, then as people start downloading they are not only downloading from the host but from other people downloading the same file at the same time. This pushes download speeds up to ridiculously fast speeds. I've downloaded 45MB files in 5 minutes or less. Also, by sharing the burden of a file on multiple computers, the host suffers less bandwidth consumption, making it attractive

for people who want to put out large files but do not have the necessary bandwidth. To sum it up, BitTorrent means you can download files really, really fast.

What you need to use BitTorrent is fairly simple: a BitTorrent tracker program and a fairly fast internet connection. Then all that needs to be done is a search for torrent files. After saving these tiny files, you open them in the BitTorrent tracker and away the download goes.

However, this program comes with a pressing problem, the misuse of the ability to download large files quickly. One can illegally download whole discographies of bands, movies, video games, TV series: anything that can be expressed digitally. And people who do illegally download these products typically do not get punished for doing so. The people who do get arrested and put on trial are those who own the websites where people go to find the torrent files to download. One of the only individuals to be arrested was a Hong Kong resident who uploaded 3 movies.

One of the great aspects of BitTorrent is that many companies use it to send their subscribers data. Podcasting has also benefited from BitTorrent. I for one just cannot seem to finish downloading a podcast on iTunes. The podcast always closes or just takes so long that I am forced to download it some other way. I used to use BitTorrent to do this, but Puget Sound blocks the download of torrent files on their network so I'm stuck with directly downloading the file.

BitTorrent is a powerful tool that internet users have at their disposal. The ease of use is what drew me to it. You just download a small, 35KB file and then open it in the BitTorrent client. That's really all that you have to do. I admit that yes, I did download an episode of Family Guy when I missed its Sunday time slot a few years ago as well as downloading X-men 3 after seeing it in theaters. I erased both the files after watching them out of guilt and, I'd like to think, my morals. The Family Guy season was worth buying. X-men 3 was not.

PUGET SOUND
TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

The Latest From Technology Services

• A SOURCE FOR OPEN SOURCE?

You can access Linux on two machines in Library 034 and the Tech Center, and OpenOffice (a free MS Office alternative) is installed on the computers in Library 034 and McIntyre 324.

• ROCK THE VOTE!

Add real time polling to your next meeting or class. We have clickers (a.k.a. audience response systems) available for checkout. See itech.ups.edu/tools to learn more.

• NICE JOB, DR. BEEZER!

The latest issue of *EDUCAUSE Review* includes an article by Puget Sound's own Rob Beezer, professor of mathematics and computer science, on the open content textbook he created at linear.ups.edu.

WWW.UPS.EDU/TS

1987

President Phibbs met with the Board of Trustees regarding a problem with a neighborhood "slumlord." The residences of the house had been throwing large parties which attracted the attention of the Tacoma PD on a "daily basis."

2000

The turn of the century brought plans for a new residence hall on campus, an upperclassmen suite-style hall to be located between Howarth and Todd Halls. The building would later be named Trimble Hall.

CLASSIFIEDS

THE TRAIL

FEBRUARY 27, 2009

5



Wanna submit a Hey You? Email trailheyyou@ups.edu or put one in the box in the cellar.

Rules:

- No reference to drug or alcohol use
- No references to identifiable people
- No excessive use of foul language

"HEY YOU, I just want your kiss, boy."

"HEY YOU, I just ran my bike into a wall."

"HEY YOU, boyfriend, I really enjoy our super secret make-out sessions at work. I love you."

"HEY YOU, I used your mom's credit card to buy food for my owl. Then it bit my finger."

"HEY YOU, you know there is something wrong when you have more polo shirts than there are days in February."

"HEY YOU, You remind me of Lenny Kravitz."

"HEY YOU, Duke of Earls, why are you so delicious?"

"HEY YOU, I'm sorry that I accidentally tripped you and made you fall in your own pasta in front of Sherman Alexie."

"HEY YOU, cute choir boy, I want the key to your kingdom."

"HEY YOU, Stop building Lego statues on my desk."

"HEY YOU, I forgot to tell you I'm a guy. Can we still hang out?"

"HEY YOU, I wish you had more of a personality."

"HEY YOU, if you propose to me one more time, I might take you up on your offer."

"HEY YOU, grumpy Diversion's girl. Try not to be so rude to your customers."

"HEY YOU, When I have a flowy white beard, I'll let you sit on my lap. Until then, please no. Please."

"HEY YOU, Why would he be looking at websites like that?"

"HEY YOU, attractive, single, straight UPS men, where are you?"

"HEY YOU, I wish I had the energy to stop talking to you. The smell of stale pot distresses me, and I'd like to close the chapter of my life involving you."

"HEY YOU, get your own friends. Mine are taken"

"HEY YOU, I like watching you eat that sandwich while staring up at the television."

"HEY YOU, I'm glad we've gotten back on track."

"HEY YOU, I stare at you in Bio lab, but I think we've got more Chemistry."

"HEY YOU, your silent smiles brighten my day."

"HEY YOU, It really creeps me out sometimes that you have a picture of me as your computer background."

"HEY YOU, You should shower more."

"HEY YOU, your constant bangin' is giving me a headache"

"HEY YOU, I gave you my rose and you stole a kiss. I'd like to steal it back. Interested?"

"HEY YOU, Tattler, get some original quotes! Stop stealing your overheards from the internet."

"HEY YOU, Kids who play board games in the sub, are you afraid of girls or something?"

"HEY YOU, running into you always brightens my day."

"HEY YOU, Crossword Kid: here's a clue, a four letter word for me and you."

"HEY YOU, tall, blonde boy in the shack. You've got tents, skis, and snowshoes...but what i really want to know is if I can rent YOU for the weekend"

"HEY YOU, sassysquatch, I'm so happy you aren't elusive to me!"

"HEY YOU, let's not forget that friends get to hang out sometimes. How about a couple not-watery not-americanos sometime?"

"HEY YOU, loud sports team in the sub at 8am, I promise your jokes really aren't that funny so there's no need to laugh like a banshee. If you could take your ridiculous carb intake somewhere else, that'd be great."

"HEY YOU, chemistry boy, I could teach you a thing or two about real life chemical reactions."

"HEY YOU, Hot, femmey freshman. I don't normally dig the puffer jackets, but you make it work really well."

"HEY YOU, thanks for informing me about the possibility of the NAVY interfering with whale mating calls in Diversions that one time. You're super cute."

"HEY YOU, I wouldn't mind having another six hour conversation with you. You have no idea how much I enjoy your company."

"HEY YOU, Hello Kitty loves going on walks with you."

"HEY YOU, Tort the Turtle, did you stumble upon a taxidermist?"

"HEY YOU, Feliz Navidad! I'd let you score if we played one-on-one."

"HEY YOU, Wisconsin cowgirl, leave your boyfriend at home next time you come over"

"HEY YOU, boys from last semester, I miss telling raunchy jokes with you while we pretend to rehearse."

"HEY YOU, you were looking pretty nice yourself. PS: quit smoking- it's the only thing about you that's not hot."

"HEY YOU, can you guess who I am? Well, I'm starting to love you very much more each day that we have together."

"HEY YOU, peach bitch, why don't we play Mario Kart anymore?"

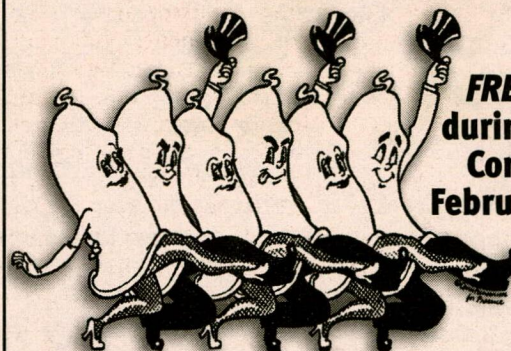
"HEY YOU, Feliz Navidad! Have you ever thought about playing for the other team? Agagaga!"

"HEY YOU, beautiful blue-eyed boy in my seminar class, I could listen to you talk about the Vichy government all day long."

"HEY YOU, Boom!"

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- DO NOT REPEAT A NUMBER IN ANY ROW OR COLUMN
- THE NUMBERS IN EACH HEAVILY OUTLINED SET OF SQUARES, CALLED CAGES, MUST COMBINE (IN ANY ORDER) TO PRODUCE THE TARGET NUMBER IN THE TOP CORNER OF THE CAGE USING THE MATHEMATICAL OPERATION INDICATED.
- CAGES WITH JUST ONE BOX SHOULD BE FILLED IN WITH THE TARGET NUMBER IN THE TOP CORNER.
- A NUMBER CAN BE REPEATED WITHIN A CAGE AS LONG AS IT IS NOT IN THE SAME ROW OR COLUMN.

Level: Moderate

Women lose important game to Pacific Boxers in overtime

Loggers look to regroup before tournament

BY VINCE GHIRINGHELLI
MANAGING EDITOR

In the final weekend of Northwest Conference play, the Puget Sound women's basketball team headed south to Oregon to take on the third place Pacific University Boxers and the eighth place Willamette University Bearcats.

January when the squads squared off in Memorial Fieldhouse. This past weekend, Pacific brought a conference record of 9-5 to the game in Forest Grove and were playing to secure a spot in the conference tournament. The Boxers were able to derail a Logger team that had trouble finding its rhythm and getting the ball to go in the hoop, resulting in an

much worse for Puget Sound had Ely not found her way to the line as frequently as she did, as the Loggers made only 22-73 shots on the night, including 5-22 from behind the arc.

It's extremely difficult to win, especially on the road, when a team shoots 30 percent for the game. Chase believes there are still things a team can do to win a game even if one aspect isn't working for them. "Sometimes we are going to have an off shooting night. Our defense is something that we should take pride in. We didn't do that Friday, and we know that solid team defense will be the key to any future success no matter what the circumstances are." Chase said.

"Once we get this far in the season, we are doing it for the seniors. We want to prolong their season as long as possible."

-Claire Ely

Puget Sound was able to come back and take care of bottom feeder Willamette University on Saturday by a score of 70-50. The Loggers' shooting efficiency had improved from the night before improved to nearly 40 percent from the field. Freshman Guard Jocelyn Riordan (Lake Forest Park, Wash.) led all scorers in the game with 16 points.

A stingy Logger defense managed to force 29 turnovers on the night. Good teams take advantage of other teams' mistakes, and Puget Sound was able to do just that against an out-matched Willamette squad.

The bench was also much more productive for Puget

SEE WOMEN PAGE 7

Week brings many highs, lows for Puget Sound baseball team

BY CHRIS DUGOVICH
SPORTS WRITER

It was a roller coaster week for the Puget Sound men's baseball team, starting the week with a loss to Saint Martins and ending on a last minute victory against Whitman. The Loggers went 2-2 in the first week of the 2009 season, including a tough loss to NWC rival Linfield College.

After being postponed twice, Puget Sound finally took to the field in Lacey, Wash. on Feb. 17 to face off in a non-conference game against Saint Martins Saints.

The Saints took advantage of a slow start by the Loggers, getting on the board after a wild pitch from Sophomore Cam Duvall (Lakewood, Wash.).

The Loggers seemed to snap out of it, however, after Freshmen Charlie Bogart (Beverly Hills, Calif.) reached on a fielding error by Saint Martin's second baseman, allowing Chaz Kramer (Boulder, Colo.) and Casey Coberly (Boise, Idaho) to score, giving Puget Sound a 2-1 lead in the top of the second inning.

The hits kept coming for the Loggers, with an RBI single from Sophomore Dakota Resnik (Bellevue, Wash.) and another two RBIs from Junior Doug Cox (Kailua, Hawaii). Puget Sound headed into the bottom of the second with a commanding lead over the Saints at five runs to one.

Saint Martins quickly retaliated, tightening the Loggers' lead to just one run after scoring three runs in the bottom second. Puget Sound held on to the advantage until the sixth inning, when the Saints' Jake Owens hit the sacrifice fly to center field to score Andy Cole, tying the score up at 6-6.

After a couple of score-

less innings, the Saints managed to get runners on both second and third base in the bottom of the eighth. Saint Martins Andrew Braegelmann hit a hard ball toward Junior Spencer Crace (Wilsonville, Ore.) at third base. Despite managing to scoop up the ball, Crace's throw to home sailed wide, allowing two runners to score. The game ended in a loss for Puget Sound, the final score at 7-5.

On Friday Feb. 20, the Loggers headed into Oregon for the Jim Doran Auto Classic hosted by Linfield College. Puget Sound picked up a win in their first game of the classic, beating Concordia University nine runs to six.

Saturday's game didn't go as well, as the men faced off against Linfield College, who are currently ranked #1 in the NWC. Despite their efforts, the defending conference champions overpowered the Loggers, beating Puget Sound 12-2.

In the last game of the classic, held Sunday, the Loggers took the field against the Whitman Missionaries.

Whitman scored first, but the Logger bats came alive in the bottom half of the first with the help of Mark Rocky (Mountlake Terrace, Wash.) and Dakota Resnik. A few batters later, with two men on base, David Thirlby (Seattle, Wash.) earned two RBIs off a double hit into right-center. The rally continued as Will Mentor (Seattle, Wash.) reached on an error that allowed Thirlby to score, and then Andrew Grady (Cave Creek, Ariz.) doubled to allow Zach Girard (Vancouver, Wash.) to score. The inning ended with

SEE BASEBALL PAGE 7



ASUPS PHOTO SERVICES/DREW LEVIN

Junior Claire Ely (Walnut Creek, Calif.) drives to the hoop in a game earlier this season. Ely leads Puget Sound in scoring this season.

Puget Sound had won eight of their previous nine games and were carrying momentum of weeks past in to Friday night's match up against Pacific. The Loggers finished regular season play with a record of 18-7.

Puget Sound had already taken a game a piece from the Boxers and the Bearcats in late

overtime loss by a score of 73-70.

Junior guard Claire Ely (Walnut Creek, Calif.) carried the Loggers with a career high 28 points, but most of these came from the charity stripe where she was an outstanding 14-17. Senior post Karen Chase (Yakima, Wash.) also added 16 points and 12 boards. Things may have been

Basketball returns home for conference playoffs

BY DAVID SKOLNIK
SPORTS WRITER

The Puget Sound men's basketball team headed to Forest Grove, Oregon on Friday, Feb. 20 for a match up with the Pacific Boxers. When the game was over, the Loggers were within one game of finishing the NWC season undefeated after beating the Boxers 76-64.

The Loggers never trailed after the first minute of the game, pushing the lead to as much as 13 as they headed to the halftime break up 41-28.

The lead grew as large as 18 early in the second half but Pacific scrapped their way to within four points with under four minutes left in the game.

The Loggers never lost their cool or showed any signs of panic as they calmly reestablished the double digit lead and held on for the 76-64 victory.

Senior Antwan Williams (Portland, Ore.) led a balanced Logger attack with 18 points and four assists. Senior Robert Krauel added 17 points (Phoenix, Ariz.) and Senior Steffond Brown (Seattle, Wash.) contributed 11 off the bench.

"We have so many guys that does things without which we could not win games. We feed off each other, stick together, and find ways to win," Junior Collin Koach (Portland, Ore.) said.

The Loggers travelled to Salem, Ore. on Saturday, Feb. 21, 2009 looking to finish off a perfect season in the Northwest Conference. It took a furious comeback late in the second half, but when it was all said and done the Loggers pulled out a 75-74 victory, finishing the first undefeated NWC season in league history.

The Bearcats took the lead

SEE MEN PAGE 7



ASUPS PHOTO SERVICES/PAUL WICKS

The Loggers returned to Collins Memorial Fieldhouse last night for the first round of the NWC tournament against Lewis and Clark.

THE TRAIL

BASEBALL

CONT. FROM PAGE 6

a Puget Sound lead of 5-1. The Missionaries managed to close down the Logger lead in the top of the second, chalking up three runs. Thirlby singled up the middle in the bottom of the inning to score Cox and Resnik and push the Puget Sound lead to 7-4. Whitman rallied, and by the fifth inning, the Missionaries pulled ahead with a score of eight to seven.

The game would remain close as Rocky singled to left field to score Gregg Ringold (Los Altos Hills, Calif.), effectively tying the game at 8-8.

Puget Sound finally collected the victory in the bottom of the eighth off a sacrifice fly from the bat of Freshmen Matt Cox (Salem, Ore.). With Ringold crossing home plate, the



ASUPS PHOTO SERVICES/KEVIN CURLETT

On the Mound: Sophomore Pitcher Andrew Kloppel (Makawao, Hawaii) heaves a pitch toward home plate in a home game last season.

final score was secured at 9-8.

The Loggers make their home debut this Saturday, Feb. 28 against the Whitworth Pi-

rates. The series will last the whole weekend beginning with the first game, set for 11:00 a.m. on Logger Field.

MEN

CONT. FROM PAGE 6

early, using a 10-0 run to jump ahead 12-2. The teams traded runs throughout the rest of the first half and Willamette got the benefit of the final run, taking a 42-36 lead into the Locker room.

Through the first 12 minutes of the second half, it didn't look like Puget Sound was going to be able to muster a comeback as the Bearcats continued to extend their lead.

The lead got as high as 15 points but the Loggers continued to have faith in their ability to fight back. Williams hit a three pointer with just under five minutes to play in the game to bring the Loggers within six points.

The lead was down to two with two minutes to play after a score by Brown. With eight seconds left, and the Bearcats clinging to a one point lead, Williams went to the free throw line with a chance to put the Loggers ahead for the first time in the game. He sank both shots and Willamette missed a shot at the buzzer to preserve the Loggers perfect season.

Krauel led Puget Sound with 22 points, Williams scored 10 clutch points, and Junior Austin Boyce (Kent, Wash.) added 11.

The Loggers have the top seed in the Northwest Conference and can now wait to find out who they will play in the opening round of the conference tournament.



ASUPS PHOTO SERVICES/PAUL WICKS

Frequent Flyer: Senior Forward Jason Foster (Spanaway, Wash.) hangs from the rim following one of his signature big dunks.

WOMEN

CONT. FROM PAGE 6

Sound, as Junior Guard Caitlyn Faidley (Seattle, Wash.) contributed 12 points in just 13 minutes of action. Faidley was 4-6 from three point range, and also collected two rebounds. The Loggers were a much improved 7-15 from long range in the game, and out-rebounded the Bearcats 37-28.

"When I get the opportunity to play I know that my role is to not only shoot but also bring energy and get stops on defense. Every time I step on the floor my team expects me to be energetic, get deflections and work as hard as I can," Faidley said of her role on the team.

Though the Loggers had already secured second place in conference play, a win over the Boxers last week would have earned them a match up with the Whitman Missionaries in the Conference tournament. Puget Sound may actually end up playing a weaker team in the opening round, as Pacific owns a 13-11 overall record as opposed

to the 18-7 record of Whitman. Chase vowed the team wouldn't take anyone lightly. Being that Pacific just beat the Loggers, they knew what could happen if things don't go their way.

"In our conference, a team's record really doesn't determine much. Any team can step up or have an off night. We will need to play well no matter who the opponent is," Chase said.

If the Loggers are victorious in their semi-final game against Pacific, they will play for the conference championship this weekend. Depending on the results of last night's game between Whitman and George Fox University, Puget Sound will either host Whitman or travel to Newberg, Ore. to play GFU. A playoff spot is guaranteed to the Northwest Conference champion, so Puget Sound would much rather win a berth outright than put their fate in the hands of the NCAA committee in hopes of receiving an at-large bid.

"We are looking for a win to extend our playoff run to the championship game and a chance at nationals. It just so happens that Pacific is the team between us and playing Fox again in the championship. We did just lose to Pacific, so of course that will be in the back of our minds, but it is so much bigger than that," Ely said of the rematch against Pacific.

No matter what happens, the Puget Sound seniors had a chance to play at least one more home game. This season's team has been gritty and scrappy, and they certainly have the drive and talent to make a deep run in the national tournament. If there is still business to be taken care of this weekend, the Loggers will be ready to meet the challenge.

"Once we get this far in the season, we are doing it for the seniors," Ely said of what is at stake. "We want to prolong their season as long as possible, so we will be doing all that we can to give them one more opportunity to wear the maroon and white for one more game."

New softball coach earns first wins on road in Oregon

BY KYRA FRIEDEL
SPORTS WRITER

Puget Sound softball played two games Saturday, Feb. 21 and another two Sunday, Feb. 22 to start off their season and give head coach Jennifer Peterson her first career win. Puget Sound split their season opener in Portland, Ore., winning Saturday against the Warriors of Corban College 6-0 and falling later that day 8-5 to the Mountaineers of Eastern Oregon University.

Once again in Portland, Ore. Sunday the Loggers ended their day with a win and a loss, falling to Concordia College 4-2 earlier in the day and beating out Northwest Christian College 12-4.

Puget Sound got a fresh start to their 2009 season scoring their first run from newcomer second baseman and pitcher Aryn Grause (Corvallis, Ore.) at the top of the first inning off a wild pitch.

"It's hard playing two positions. I have to practice at second and do my pitcher workout outside of practice, but it all really pays off in a game," Grause said.

The Loggers maintained control throughout the game, but excelled in the sixth inning, scoring the majority of their runs then.

Corban made three errors in the inning, which Junior Stephanie Hatley (Keizer, Ore.) took advantage of. Freshman Megan Janes (Littleton, Colo.) connected with the ball and scored a single, sending Grause and Kelsey Scanlan (La Center, Wash.) home for the Loggers' third and fourth points.

Despite their lead, Puget Sound did not let up on the pressure, scoring their final two runs off a Corban error. Junior Hilary Rice (St. Paul, Minn)

got a hit and advanced a base, which sent Cassie Walny (University Place, Wash.) and Janes racing home to finish the game. Puget Sound won their game in part because of Sophomore Auriel Sperberg (Spanaway, Wash.), who did not let anyone score on her and gave up only six hits with two strikeouts.

In their game against Eastern Oregon, teamwork was the name of the game as Puget Sound continually traded off hitting and scoring for each other. Eastern Oregon started the game off strong, scoring a run in the top of the first, which was answered by Loggers' Senior Meghan Watson (Brier, Wash.) at the bottom of the inning.

Watson capitalized on the Mountaineers' errors, getting Rice home and scoring later herself from a wild pitch while Grause was at-bat, putting the Loggers ahead 2-1. Watson and Hatley scored again off two more wild pitches, while Hatley sent Freshman Thea Aasen (University Place, Wash.) home on a single to left field. Puget Sound led the game 5-3 until the top of the fourth. Hatley and Grause came through once again against Concordia Sunday, scoring the first two runs off a passed ball and a Concordia error. But the Loggers lost sight of their 2-0 lead in the bottom of the fifth, when Sperberg gave the Cavaliers four runs off six hits to end the game.

During their second game of the day, Puget Sound scored nine runs from the Beacons off seven hits in only the second inning, which set the tone for the rest of the game, giving Northwest Christian only four runs off a home run in the fifth. Sophomore pitcher Andi Doerflinger (Juneau, Alaska) led the Loggers to a resounding victory over the Beacons, 9-4.

Trail Featured Athletes - Gregg Ringold

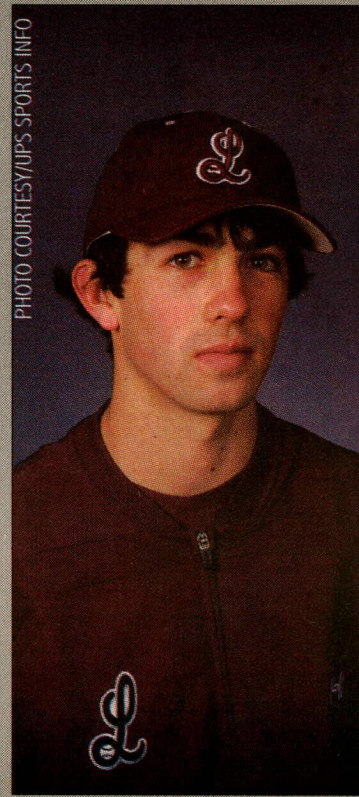


PHOTO COURTESY/UPS SPORTS INFO

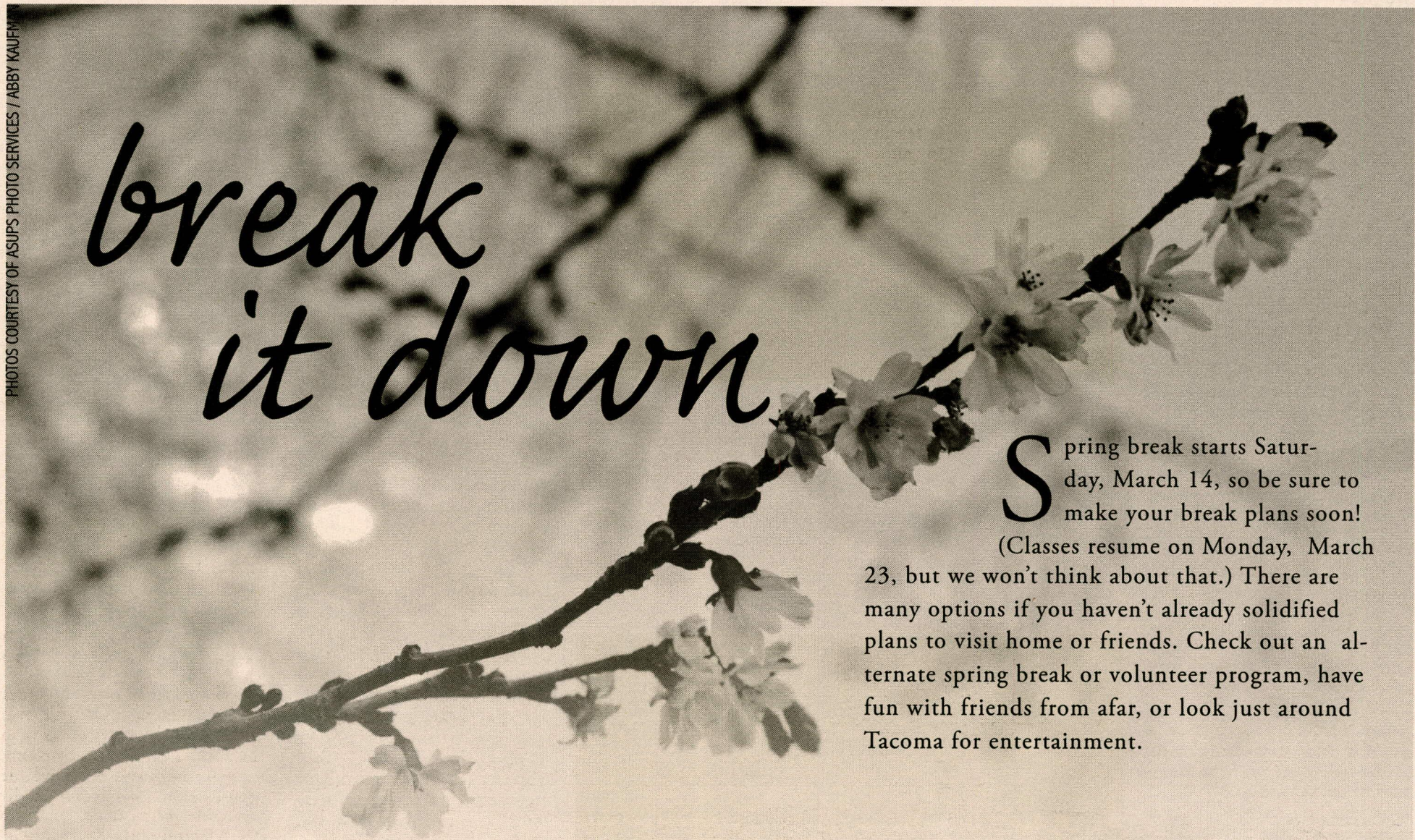
Sophomore baseball player Gregg Ringold (Los Altos Hills, Calif.) is one of Puget Sound's leading offensive weapon. Ringold displayed his value Feb. 22 when he played a vital roll in the Loggers' win over Whitman last week.

Ringold has started for the Loggers in each of the three games he has played in.

He currently boasts a batting average of .556 and a slugging percentage of .667 in the Loggers' four games this season.

Despite Ringold's solid performance on the diamond, he is practical about his abilities.

"I played fine but there is always room for improvement. I'm not a guy who is going to hit home runs. I'm not a big guy," Ringold said. "But I am going to get on base. I am going to lay down bunts. I am going to get the job done. We're all out there to get the job done."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ASUPS PHOTO SERVICES / ABBY KAUFMAN

Spring break starts Saturday, March 14, so be sure to make your break plans soon!

(Classes resume on Monday, March 23, but we won't think about that.) There are many options if you haven't already solidified plans to visit home or friends. Check out an alternate spring break or volunteer program, have fun with friends from afar, or look just around Tacoma for entertainment.

Camping, rainforests and beaches readily available

BY CLAIRE SCHAFER
FEATURES WRITER

So, I'm sure that most of us remember lovely 1 ½ hour+ bus ride to Passages, and the cold, damp, spider-filled, cramped, hard-floored tents, but there's so much more to the Olympic Peninsula than what we saw in those three days. Those of us who went on overnight canoeing and backpacking trips got to see a bit more, but the area is really extensive and, more importantly, there are rainforests! The Quinault, Hoh, and Queets Rainforests are accessible year round, and are conveniently located close to one another near the coast, about a 2 1/2 hour drive along Highway 101 to the closest one, Quinault.

Oddly enough, Quinault Rainforest is part of two different organizations, the National Park Service, and the U.S. Forest Service. The National Park Service, which has jurisdiction over the Olympic National Park, has a \$15 entry fee per car, and campsites costing anywhere from \$10 to \$18 per night. There are no campsites available in the Quinault Area. The Queets campground is \$10 a night and has pit toilets, but no drinking water, and the Hoh campground is \$12, and has flush toilets and available drinking water.

The National Forest Service owns the Southern part of Quinault. Here you will find a fancy lodge, but no open

campgrounds. However, there are a lot of trails that connect, so you can pick how far you'd like to walk and create a loop back to the trailhead parking lot. A day pass is \$5.

For those of you who like cooking or are interested in trying out a new hobby, you can head out for mushroom picking, which is allowed in the National Forest.

No permit is necessary, and the daily limit is one gallon of a single species of mushroom per person. A special permit is required to harvest or transport more than three gallons of a species of edible mushrooms. At Quinault you can also find the world's largest Sitka Spruce, 191 ft. tall and

17 ft. in diameter. The rainforests are pretty year round, and worth the car trip.

An hour north of Quinault is Kalaloch, where there are campsites available year round for only \$12 per night.

Several beaches are accessible from Kalaloch campgrounds, characterized by tide pools, cliffs, steep bluffs, driftwood and vantage points for seasonal whale watching. One of the northernmost beaches in the Kalaloch area is Ruby Beach, which has sea stacks jutting up all along the beach. These beaches can be especially popular for storm watching. If you aren't interested in beaches or rainforests, the park has plenty of regular

forests and mountains, too. Prices are cheap, and many campgrounds are available year round. Just check the website www.nps.gov for more information. There's still plenty of snow up on Hurricane Ridge, although the road is only open Friday – Sunday, and you must have tire chains. \$5 snowshoe walks are available Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m., ski lift passes are \$25 per day, and it's \$28 to rent skis, boots, and poles for a day.

The Olympic Peninsula is close by, and really spectacular. Spring break is the perfect time to enjoy a relaxing 20-mile hike or take some nice fungi photos to make your friends in the South jealous.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ASUPS PHOTO SERVICES / ABBY KAUFMAN

Above: scenes from the Quinault Rainforest. There are many opportunities for hiking, camping and exploring on the nearby Olympic Peninsula.

Finding a paradise without emptying your wallet

BY LAUREN BAGBY
FEATURES WRITER

To the burnt out and jaded college student: hang in there, spring break is almost here. Whether or not you have big and extravagant plans for your well deserved week of bliss, it never hurts to pick the brains of upperclassmen that have already experienced their fair share of spring break adventuring.

For many, spring break conjures up images of beach days and tanning sessions, but although the weather can be nice here in March, it never hurts to head further south—if you can afford it. Cabo is infamous for its reputation as a spring break getaway, but with airfare, lodging and other—ahem—

necessities factored into the equation, this dream vacation becomes less and less feasible. Preferring to remain anonymous, one student comments that “Cabo just isn’t worth the money. You’re better off sticking closer to campus, or road tripping with friends.”

If you are a fan of road trips, it might be smart to head over to Borders and check out their “local interest” section, where they have travel books chalk full of ideas of things to do around the Northwest. Washington Curiosities is a fun find, offering insight into the “wildest, wackiest, most outrageous people, places, and things Washington State has to offer.” The author, travel writer Harriet Baskas, describes plentiful “roadside oddities” that would

undoubtedly make for an off-beat and memorable experience.

A lot of students take advantage of the weeklong break to head up north to Canada, where skiers can get their kick in Whistler, and those looking to have a fun time out on the town can head to Vancouver.

Senior Barbara Hodapp reminisces about spending a long weekend in Vancouver for Saint Patrick’s Day during her sophomore year, explaining that, “I had a lot of fun. Two friends and I just drove up for a few days to celebrate Saint Patrick’s Day. We stayed in a cheap student hostel and met tons of Irish Canadians on an organized pub crawl.”

For the rest of the trip she and her friends went sightsee-

ing and enjoyed being out of the country for a few days. “It wasn’t a warm spring break, but it was affordable and memorable.” If visiting our neighbors to the north sounds appealing to you, just remember to “bring your passport, and know the name of the place you’re going to be staying at. The Canadian border patrol wanted to know where we were headed, and they reassured us that we were in a good part of town.”

Even if you plan to stay on campus during spring break, a week away from classes and homework provides a wonderful opportunity to explore Seattle more in depth, beyond the normal tourist attractions. Instead, it can be fun to head up to Capitol Hill and take a walk along Broadway, where

thrifty boutiques coexist with more commercial outlets. Tons of restaurants dot the vibrant neighborhood, including one that everyone should google: The Broadway Grill. Whether you enjoy their Sunday brunch or prefer to have lunch or dinner, it is advised you not skip the dessert list. Trust me; you can thank me later.

No matter what form your spring break takes this year, you can be sure that it will be a welcome relief from the stresses of the semester, hopefully restoring your energy enough to get you through the rest of the year. Once everyone returns from vacation, the homestretch remains, and we will have increasingly sunnier, longer and warmer days to look forward to.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF HUBLIONS.ORG/IMAGES

There are many opportunities to improve the community. Adopt-a-Highway is one of them.

Spring break: a chance to give something back to the community

BY MARY KRAUSZER
FEATURES WRITER

Hollywood would have us believe that spring breaks should be filled with bad decisions

and bikinis, but the beauty of college is the choice to create your own alternatives. Some students will be lucky enough to spend the week in the comfort of their own homes, or even on a fun and friendly adventure, but those of us left to brave the barren barracks of an abandoned campus need to find our own options for the week of academic interlude. In the scene of college-age consciousness, the alternative spring break has arisen to fill this void. Alternative spring breaks offer a worthwhile alternative to... spring breaks.

There are several alternative spring break options offered both on- and off-campus for Puget Sound students. With the on-campus religious group, Lighthouse, Puget Sound student Rosemary Dinkins is go-

ing to a town close to Houston, Texas to help with Hurricane Ike relief. The group will be assisting community members in cleanup and rebuilding after the recent devastation. Dinkins says of her decision to participate in an alternative spring break, “I don’t want to go home and sit around during break; I want to spend it doing something that actually matters.”

For a local option of alternative spring breaks, Chaplin Dave Wright and Community Service Peer Minister Zachary Lam have organized five days of service around the Tacoma community. The week will be a combination of service projects, reflection and education. From group orientations to catered presentations, the group will be immersed in leadership and community-oriented activities. The group will be most closely involved with the Saint Leo orchard, food bank, clinic, and soup kitchen, as well as the Pierce County AIDS Foundation. The group will also be working with

Franke Toby Jones, which Lam describes as “a retirement community with residents who love ice cream parties.”

Past Puget Sound students have also volunteered with a program called Orphanage Outreach. One Puget Sound student said of the experience, “This was the best spring break ever!” Another reflected, “Orphanage Outreach opened my eyes to a completely different world. I have never been exposed to such a friendly and beautiful culture. I made friends, both other volunteers and Dominicans that I will never forget.”

These students were attune to the need present in this community and their unique opportunity to fulfill it.

As college students, now is the time to take advantage of these unique opportunities. It is not often that the mature minions of the post collegiate workforce get a chance to take a whole week off for the sake of service. So get on it, Puget Sound. Save the Whales.

A break in Tacoma

BY SHELBY TAYLOR
FEATURES WRITER

As February chugs along, visions of March are already dancing in our student body’s heads. Plane flights are being booked, destinations are being narrowed down. Do I go home for break? Should I hit up Cabo, where the sun does not tease at this time of year? Options, options, options!

If your spring break, however, is going to be campus-bound, you have an advantage over many. While you will have hours upon hours to complete final projects, most vacationers will place such work on the back burner. But what to do with the hours not spent in study?

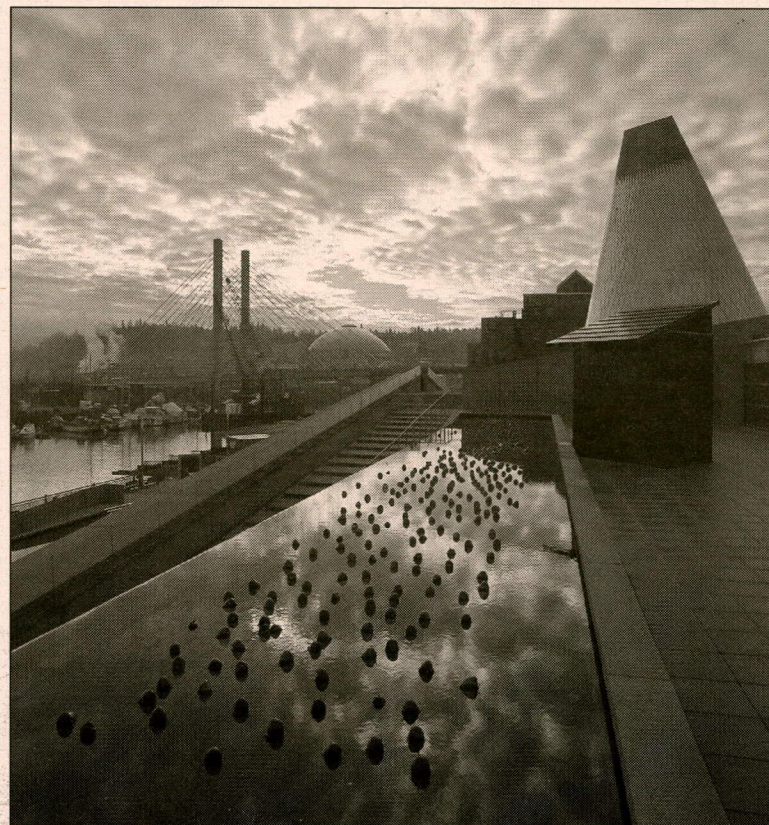
A key ingredient in vacation is relaxation. Both end in “ation” so, epistemologically speaking, they must be linked. How do you unwind after midterms? Are you a homebody or a PSO enthusiast? A reader or a watcher? A stroller or the jock? Oof, this is already sounding like one of those “choose your own adventure” books.

If you chose homebody, with a little imagination, your room can become home. If the dorm is your domain, more likely than not, your roomie will be away. Up your room’s comfort by

checking out Target’s (2 miles) selection of bedding and blankets. With Blockbuster close at hand (.74 miles), load up on a season of Friends or LOST, depending on what is not readily available online. My recent claim to stalkerhood deals with looking up friends’ favorite movies and locating them on Youtube.

Mayhaps books are your escape, and why not hop, skip, and jump on over to Tacoma Public Library? Located 2.40 miles away is your ticket to free reads. According to the BBC, most of you will only have read six of the books on their “The Big Read” top 100 list. All genres are accounted for in the mumbo jumbo of titles, so have at it! The list is available at www.bbc.co.uk/arts/bigread/top100.

If you are more into the tang of evergreen filling your senses, you need not do a Point D run. Puget Park (1.74 miles away) has trailheads leading to our school’s namesake, the Sound, and a playground (swing set included) to get your inner child fix. Or else you may loop around the neighboring houses. Tacoma has charm, believe it or not, with houses of Pepto-Bismol and sky blue. Clock a route and walk to de-stress or else run it out. Let Tacoma be your track.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SHERIDAN.GEOG.KENT.EDU/PHOTOS/THE-REST

The Museum of Glass is just one of many accessible venues.

"Info Desk" failing to answer tough questions, withholding information

SALLY JONES
PROMINENT PERSON

It was discovered on Monday that the Information Center in the SUB provides its patrons with only some, not all, information.

"I'm really sorry, I don't know the answer to that question," says Katie Edwards, a work-study student who has worked at the Info Desk for two years. The phrase seems to have become her mantra.

A curious student, Ronnie Yu, had just asked her if he would go blind if he were to get dried pigeon manure in his eye.

"I just wanted to know some information, so I went to the information desk" he says, rubbing his eyes, "it's a scam."

The Information Desk in Wheelock isn't the only supposed vessel of knowledge on campus that provides only a limited scope of information. The Information Desk in Collins Memorial Library, in fact, operates on similar principles – or lack thereof.

"We really just help people find what they need in the library," says Francis Mel-

bourne, an Information Desk assistant, "we answer questions about the library."

A survey of library regulars revealed that the info desk has never provided support to any of them regarding personal relationship problems, existential crises, dietary issues, or gambling addiction, among other pressing topics.

"Last week I asked one of the student employees if it's true that if you die and nobody finds your body for a

while, your cat will get hungry and eat your face – just your face" said Toookie Royce, a biology major, "because my cat is always looking at my face."

The info desk offered Toookie no resolution to his problem. "They just gave me a book about cats," he said, "what am I supposed to do with that?"

As the unanswered questions pile up and the campus community is starved of important information, the Information Desks continue

to belie their true identities.

"We would like to see the word *some* added to the sign," said Liz Strauss, a well-known student activist, "otherwise it's extortion."

Liz is planning to stage a sit-in in front of the Information Desk in the library and has already piqued interest in other dissatisfied students around the campus. She is using the printers in the library to print flyers for the cause.



ASUPS PHOTO SERVICES/PAUL WICKS

Food names to become more badass

CHANCE O'RAINE
FOOD EATER

In an unprecedented collaborative effort between the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), foods are to become more badass starting March 1, 2009. This new change has been sparked by a growing public sentiment that foods, especially fruits and vegetables, have become "nerdy" and "not cool."

"I always pass right by the produce section," says Chad Elson, a local teenager. I mean, when someone sees you bite

into an apple they know you aren't getting any. And don't even get me started on bananas."

Experts have investigated ways of taking food to the mainstream for years with varying degrees of success. In the seventies, a campaign was launched to rename all fruits and vegetables dependent on their color. The orange is the result of that initial attempt, and though the orange was widely accepted and made popular, the system was judged impractical given the predominance of green in fruits and vegetables.

This renewed system will strive to make fruits and vegetables seem more badass in order

to work their way into popular culture and gain a following especially from young consumers.

In order to make foods badass, the word "badass" had to first be defined. USDA agent Brody Caracas was assigned the task of defining "badass."

"I started off with the assumption that fruits and vegetables are not badass and worked from there," Caracas explains. "Fruits and vegetables are good for you and decidedly not badass, so in order for something to be badass it needs to not be good for you. I racked my brain to find things in popular culture that were bad."

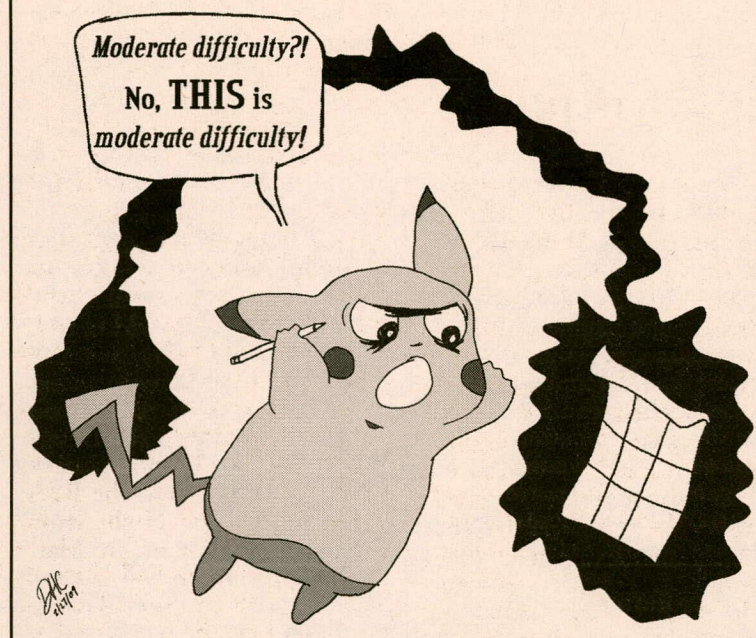
Caracas' findings were that

some of the worst things for you are also the most badass. Smoking, drinking, and weapons topped out the list with texting and social networking also ranking high.

The first trial case of the badass method was seven years ago when a single piece of Asparagus became known as a spear. Now many more vegetables are to receive new names and be featured in the 2009 version of the Merriam-Webster Dictionary. A bunch of grapes are to be called a grenade of grapes. All stalks will be referred to as swords, as in a sword of celery. A pistol of peas, a handle or a fifth of pineapples, a cigar of carrots.

FUN ZONE:

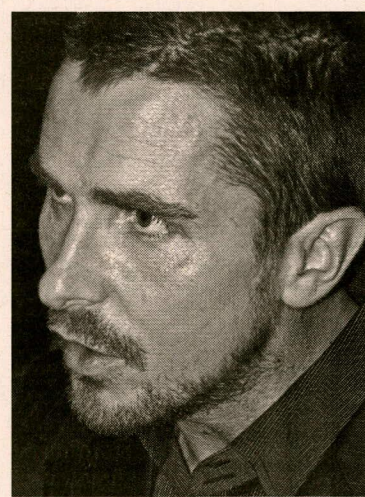
Pikachu vs. Sudoku (Round 3)



COMIC COURTESY / DAVID COHN

Christian Bale Mad Lib

Grab a friend
and get pissed!



COURTESY / WIKIPEDIA.ORG

"Am I going to walk around and rip your [noun] down, in the middle of a [noun]? Then why the [noun] are you [verb-ing] right through? Ah-da-da-dah, like this in the [noun]. What the [noun] is it with you? What don't you [noun-ing] understand? You got any [adjective] idea about, hey, it's [adverb] distracting having somebody walking up behind [noun] in the middle of the [adjective] scene? Give me a [adjective] answer! What don't you get about [noun]?"

Storybook Corner,
Economic Crisis 2009:
"The Three Little Pigs
and the big, bad
Foreclosure Fairy"
by
Arnold Adams

Once upon a time, there were three little pigs who all lived at home with their dear old Mama Pig. One day, Mama Pig gathered her children around and sweetly said it was time for them to get the hell out. The three little pigs packed their little suitcases full of hopes and dreams and went off together down a long and winding road.

It was not long before the first little pig, who suffered from a glandular problem, grew tired and decided he would not budge another inch. He saw a large straw house for sale a little ways off the road. The house looked terrible and smelled like manure, so the asking price was a little over four dollars. The first little pig promptly paid the entire cost, and the remaining pigs said farewell and took off down the road.

It was not long before the second little pig saw a large house made out of sticks and wanted to live there. This was a richer part of town, so the asking price for the house was a little beyond his means. Even so, he managed to put down 10% of the cost and went to a bank to get a loan for the rest. The second little pig got a decent interest rate, and the third little pig said farewell and took off down the road.

The third little pig walked and walked, and it was not long before he saw a large house made out of bricks. The price was pretty steep, so he could only put down 5% and had to go to the bank for the rest.

The three little pigs lived for several years in their three little houses. They all found jobs at a large automotive factory and enjoyed their work. Things were going great until, one day, Magical Pumpkin Fuel tripled in price and nobody wanted to buy automobiles anymore. The automotive factory closed, and the three little pigs lost their jobs.

The local bank, Wolfington Mutual, noticed that the third little pig had stopped paying down his loan and it sent the Foreclosure Fairy after him. The Foreclosure Fairy had the fangs of a lion, the body of a serpent, and the eyelashes of a centipede. It came to the brick house and repossessed it.

The third little pig ran to the second little pig's house, and they cowered in fear together. It was not long before the Foreclosure Fairy came to the stick house and repossessed it as well. The two pigs ran to the straw house. They cowered in fear for several weeks, and, just went they thought they were safe, they heard a knock at the door.

The Foreclosure Fairy needed a place to sleep. It could not sell the house of sticks or the house of bricks, so Wolfington Mutual went bankrupt.

The three little pigs and the Foreclosure Fairy lived happily ever after in the house of straw. It still smelled a little like poop. The End.

Theo Chocolatier creates conscious candy

BY ROSE THOMPSON
A&E WRITER

Imagine a place where you can sample cocoa nibs, lemon truffles, and coconut curry chocolate bars. Welcome to Theo Chocolate Factory, located in the historic former Red Hook brewery in Seattle's Fremont District. Theo produced its first chocolate bar in March of 2006. The company takes its name from the Theobroma (or cacao) tree, which means "food of the gods" in Latin.

Read more:
Go to www.theochocolate.com

As the only independent organic and fair trade chocolate company in the United States, Theo

is both progressive and unique.

Theo chocolate is literally made from bean-to-bar in this small Seattle factory. Theo pays fair wages to the farmers who grow their cocoa beans, and controls every step of the manufacturing process once the beans are transported to their factory. Partnership with growers in Africa and Central America has led Theo to produce entirely "guilt-free" chocolate.

I toured Theo with the Earth Friendly Gourmet theme house and a few other Puget Sound chocolate lovers. We all enjoyed the tour immensely, not to mention the nearly overwhelming variety of chocolate. History buffs, science nerds,



ASUPS PHOTOSERVICES / PAUL WICKS & MARK DELBRUECK

foodies, fair trade supporters, and anyone just plain curious about chocolate will find the Theo factory to be a real gem.

Tour reservations are advisable, and we arrived just in time to don the required blue hair nets and enter the production rooms. Our enthusiastic tour guide started with a fascinating history of chocolate, noting its religious significance to Mayan and Aztec cultures and the changes chocolate underwent in Europe when it was brought back by the conquistadors. Chocolate was produced for nobility and then as medicine before it became available to commoners.

During the information session, our guide passed plate after plate of delectable samples around the room. Theo is best known for its Single Origin, 3400 Phinney and Classic bars. Its latest bar to hit the market is called the Jane Goodall.

The single origin chocolate is from the Ivory Coast, Ghana, Venezuela, and Madagascar. Like coffee and wine, each bar of chocolate has different notes of flavor, which reflect regional environmental differences.

Eight extraordinary flavors of 3400 Phinney bars were created by Theo, enticing buyers to try common flavors — coffee, hazelnut crunch and vanilla — or

the exotic — chai, fennel and fig, coconut curry, bread, and nib brittle. Visit Theo and you can certainly try all eight: even if they do not all sound appealing at first, I can assure you that every last one of them is more than palatable. I found these delightfully packaged bars to be the highlights of what Theo chocolate has to offer.

After chocolate sample immersion, we received a crash course in the art and science of chocolate manufacturing. First the cocoa beans must pass quality testing, go through the roasting process, and then a

SEE THEO PAGE 12

Uncle Vanya explores realism, humor

BY JEN DAVIS
A&E WRITER

In describing a story of any kind, plot is key. An audience is captivated by the twist and turn of events and how those events immediately impact the lives of the characters involved. "Uncle Vanya," Puget Sound's spring faculty theatre production, written by Anton Chekhov, details the lives of nine individuals living on an estate in the pre-revolutionary Russian countryside. They sit, they converse, they cry, they fire guns: each wearied by the malaise of wasted time and tortured by the dis-

malness of the future to come.

That is not to say the play is not funny. Chekhov intentionally deposits his audiences on the edge of a knife between hilarity and utter hopelessness, a knife that each character manages to wiggle back and forth throughout the course of the show.

So it is funny, and sad, and violent: surely enough for an enjoyable evening of theater in its own right.

"But Jen," you ask, "What is the play about?"

Vanya opens tonight, and after two months of rehearsal, hours in the theatre, and intimate acquaintance with a

rather ornate corset, I still find myself unable to accurately describe the plot of this play.

It adheres to general principles of story construction. There is a beginning, middle and end. There is action, rising action, climactic action, falling action, but in the way an everyday person may be asked to recount the story of their life and fail out of confusion, so too does Vanya defy any accurate summary.

The play is about life. Life is confusing, wildly funny and terribly sad. The play resonates because it is about people living their lives. Their circumstances may be different from those of

the audience (perhaps no Puget Sound student has planted a forest or attempted to shoot his or her brother-in-law) but out of these specifics, something will inevitably rise up to connect.

The play itself is a series of conversations, all set at the estate, many taking place in the small hours of the night and morning. The set, forgoing a traditional proscenium staging, is created as an alleyway between the two wings. The audience is therefore placed on stage, seated in a set of risers that surround the actors.

SEE VANYA PAGE 12

New Animal Collective album appeals to wider audience

BY JENNY BARRON
A&E WRITER

Animal Collective's ninth studio album, *Merriweather Post Pavilion*, topped KUPS's charts this month.

In recommendation of the album, one KUPS staff member said, "This is more accessible than their previous stuff... I'm really not an AC fan, and I like this a lot."

Encouraged by this endorse-

ment, I popped the disc into the CD player and I was blown away. I too have been skeptical of Animal Collective in the past, but no more.

I have always been drawn to heavily percussive music, and *Merriweather Post Pavilion* errs on the rhythmic side. All sorts of sounds—claps, rain, frog-croaks, tons and tons of synth and computer sounds—come together in resonating grooves through out the album. In fact, the percussion relies on these sound-grooves, because the album is largely without the beat of a drum set.

The melodies are carried in the layered, hypnotic vocals. While the sound-grooves in

Merriweather Post Pavilion are not drastically different from previous albums, the vocals are. The hooks are catchier and the sound is cleaner.

This change in vocal quality is key to the band's new-found accessibility. I had previously never appreciated the grooviness of past Animal Collective albums, as they bored me quickly. The sound of the vocals was a little grating and rather thin, and a catchy melody was never consistently present.

However, after becoming (repeatedly) sucked into "My Girls" during a long drive, I finally understood Animal

SEE COLLECTIVE PAGE 12

A cappella groups grace campus with concerts

BY HANNAH CHASE
A&E WRITER

On Sun. Feb. 15, Kilworth Chapel was filled with the sound of music. However, it was not filled with the sound of typical Sunday hymns, instead it was filled with the amazing voices of the members of the female a cappella group, What She Said.

Formed by Audra de Laveaga during her freshman year, the group has since grown in both closeness and in its musical talent.

It is quite obvious that they are all quite dedicated to their craft. They practice constantly, both during rehearsal and on their own. I cannot count the times when I have heard them rehearse in the dorm building. Their constant practice has paid off.

From what I saw in the crowded chapel, What She Said has a fan club. The pews were packed and everyone was eager to sit near the front, and rightly so. In the front row, you can see how much fun the girls have as they perform a variety of songs. Their facial expressions are priceless and fit perfectly with the piece. How they interact with each other makes the show quite entertaining.

They are exceptional on stage. Their voices blend perfectly together and they are all talented together as a group and as individual singers. Solos highlighted many of the girls' unique style. They are all extraordinary singers accomplishing a feat that is rarely seen.

"I really like the novelty of a female a cappella group. Usually you see a group, of men or a mixed group so this is exciting," Michael Trombatore said. This campus is lucky to be graced by a group of such talented young women.

However, What She Said is only one of two gender exclusive a cappella groups. Garden Level has also serenaded campus with their song. Since its beginning, the group has had amazing support from Puget Sound students.

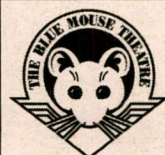
From surprise performances in the S.U.B. and Diversions Café to small shows in stairwells, the group goes to the extreme to entertain its wide fan base. I have not had the enjoyment of attending a Garden Level concert, but from what I have heard it is quite the show.

"It was so much fun. They sing songs that you know, but in a completely different style," Brooke Peaden said.

If you have not had the chance to attend either of the group's performances, I recommend that you do so. What She Said is marvelous and I have yet to hear a bad review of Garden Level.

There is still time to experience the fantastic music of What She Said and Garden Level. This Saturday, the RSA is hosting Casino Night from 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in Marshall Hall, and it will feature both fantastic groups. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at the Info Center or at the door.

All proceeds from tickets will benefit "Kids-Can-Do."



BLUE MOUSE THEATRE

2611 N. Proctor St.

Friday 2/27 - Wed 3/4

Milk

Nightly @ 7:00 pm

Saturday and Sunday Matinee @ 4:00 pm

Rated R

Thursday March 5th

Tacoma Sister Cities International Film & Food Festival

King of the Clown (South Korea)

Doors Open 5:45 pm

www.tacomafilmmfood.org <<http://www.tacomafilmmfood.org/>>

253.752.9500

www.bluemousetheatre.com

International film, food festival plays at Blue Mouse

BY LINDSEY FLATT
A&E WRITER

Those who complain that Tacoma is somewhat lacking in night time entertainment options will have cause to rejoice over the next few weeks.

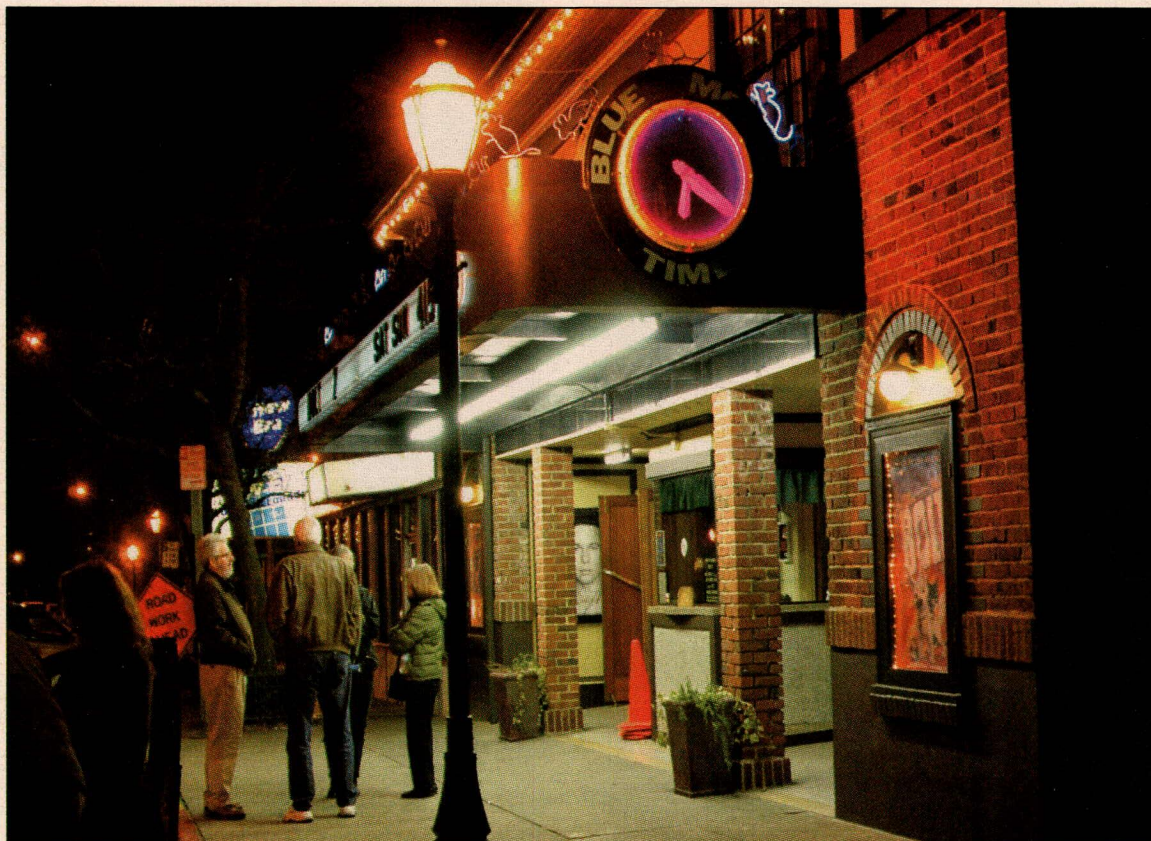
Tacoma's Seventh Annual Film and Food Festival kicked off at Proctor's Blue Mouse Theater on Feb. 5 and will continue, showing a movie every Thursday night until Apr. 2.

The festival, sponsored by Tacoma-Pierce County Sister Cities, showcases a wide variety of foreign films. Each movie is preceded by a selection of native dishes from the country being featured for the evening.

All of the films chosen highlight the various countries in which Tacoma's Sister Cities are located. The goal of this program is to create and reinforce international connections and goodwill through mutual cultural exchanges.

Tacoma's first Sister City connection was with Kitakyushu, Japan in 1959, and since then it has added another ten, including the most recent, El Jaidida, Morocco, added just this year. These eleven Sister Cities are scattered throughout the world, although there seems to be a primary focus on Asia.

The night that I attended the festival, Feb. 19, featured a showing of *Ushpizin*, honoring the city of Kiryat-Motzkina,



ASUPS PHOTO SERVICES/ABBY KAUFMAN

Cinema: Something of a Tacoma landmark, the Blue Mouse is embracing foreign film and cultures.

Israel. I had been eagerly anticipating an introduction to Israeli food, so I was a little disappointed when I discovered that the catering by "It's Greek to Me" was stereotypically Greek, not at all Israeli. But then again, I guess I have to cut the event managers some slack.

I am sure that there are not an abundance of Is-

raeli catering services available in the Tacoma area.

The portions were decent anyway, and the food itself—pita bread, spanikopita, and Greek salad—was delicious, even if it was not challah.

At each of the events, representatives from the featured Sister City are on hand to provide entertain-

ment while the audience eats.

On the night of *Ushpizin*, a trio of singers sang Israeli songs, while a home slideshow with pictures from Israel flashed on the screen behind them.

At the conclusion of the entertainment another slideshow flashed up: a history of the town of Kiryat-Motzkina produced by their mayor. Immediately pre-

ceding the film, background information was given in order to explain certain aspects of both Jewish culture and the film itself. A variety of cultural entertainment, a briefing on Sister City history and cultural/movie background info will be a theme throughout the festival.

The remaining movies in the festival are *King and the Clown* on Mar. 5 (representing Sister City Gunsan, South Korea), *Up to a Certain Point* on Mar. 12 (Cienfuegos Cuba), *Just Like Before* on Mar. 19 (Davao City, Philippines), *Baseball Boys* on Mar. 26 (Fuzhou, China) and *Bothersome Man* on Apr. 2 (Aalesund, Norway).

It is rare to get the opportunity to see older foreign films on the big screen and considering that all of these highly acclaimed movies have won or have been nominated for awards, they are guaranteed to be interesting.

Doors open at 5:45, the movies start at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$18 each, which may seem steep, but is reasonable considering that the price of dinner and a movie anywhere else would be comparable.

I recommend taking advantage of this addition to Tacoma's nightlife before the opportunity passes you by.

Read more:

Go to www.tacomafilm-food.org

COLLECTIVE — CONT. FROM PAGE 11



PHOTO COURTESY MEDIA.WASHINGTONTIMES.COM

Tunes: Animal Collective continually goes beyond expectations.

Collective. I realized that the grooves are what AC is all about. They have been there all along, but I could not appreciate them until the noisy vocals became catchy and hypnotic.

Not everyone is pleased with the new sound, though. After playing some *Merriweather Post Pavilion* tracks on air, I asked listeners to call the KUPS studio with their thoughts on the new album. The first listener to respond was unhappy: "It sucks compared to Sung Tongs [an earlier album, released in 2004]; it's really poppy," Eli said. "Poppy" is an interesting

word. An adjectival version of "Pop," the top-40 genre, the term carries some heavily negative connotations to "serious" music listeners. But should it?

The negativity comes from the too-often pairing of catchiness and terrible musicianship in the top-40 world, but melodic catchiness is not a bad thing in itself; it is what makes a song stuck in your head. When paired with complex, mature musicianship, catchiness—"pop-iness," or "accessibility"—is a beautiful thing. *Merriweather Post Pavilion* is a testament to that.

THEO — CONT. FROM PAGE 11

curing process called "conching." The products of these processes are nibs, crunchy, nut-like pieces that contain more antioxidants than anything except for Brazil's acai berry. A 1930's German ball roaster was purchased second hand at an auction for Theo. In fact, the majority of Theo's machinery is European, since American products are too large for this small-scale company. Yet clearly, bigger is not always better when it comes to chocolate factories.

The nibs then go through complex processes of mixture, refinement and tempering to produce bars and truffles

which Theo lovingly calls its "confections." The confection room has to be one of the best-smelling places in Seattle, if not the state of Washington. Our guide explained the different confections and we sampled lemon, burnt sugar, and juniper caramel truffles. I have never tasted more delicious desserts.

"It was a really good day trip. It's so easy to do and good for groups. The chocolate makes the trip completely worth it and you won't want to leave without buying something," Gina Tzodikov said.

There are no chocolate waterfalls in sight, but despite the

lack of Willy Wonka whimsy, Theo more than compensates with its generous samples and informative tour guides.

Theo chocolate is available at the Metropolitan Market.

Theo Chocolates

Public tours available Mon.-Thurs. at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. and Fri.-Sun. at 10 a.m., 12 p.m., 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.. \$6 per person. 3400 Phinney Ave N, Seattle.

Call (206) 632-5100 for tour reservations.

VANYA — CONT. FROM PAGE 11

The feeling is appropriately intimate, as the audience is essentially looking into the house of these people, and one can expect little distancing from the stage as the first row of seats extends to the parameter of the set.

In her direction, guest theatre faculty member Dr. Marilyn Bennett sought to dispel a perceivable boundary between the audience and the play being watched. As an actor, realism (building upon what Chekhov established in the script) has become the device through which every day conversations become compelling, boredom and disdain are whipped into dire need and two hours of what could easily be a bunch of whiny Russians is truly a play representative of life.

Do not expect the obvious or clichés any more than one would find in his or her own life. These are humans in sta-

sis, desperately trying to beat through the haze of convention to something fulfilling and real.

"Uncle Vanya" is a play about people, people living their lives on a thread of hope that the future will be better. As the country transitions into a new era, wading through the wreckage of regrets and time passed, perhaps it has special significance. The plot is the story of your life, your mistakes, and loves, and remembrances, laid for judgment before your feet.

When the lights come up, I hope to see you there. You will not be disappointed.

See the show

"Uncle Vanya" plays in the Norton Clapp Theatre at 7:30 Fri. Feb. 27, Sat. Feb. 28 and Thurs. Mar. 5 through Sat. Mar. 7



Tickets are \$6.50 with your student ID!

THE WRESTLER (R)

Fri.-Mon: 1:00, 3:45, 6:20, 8:50
Tues/Wed: 3:45, 6:20, 8:50
Thurs: 1:00, 3:45, 6:20, 8:50

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R)

Fri.-Mon: 1:20, 4:00, 6:35, 9:05
Tues/Wed: 4:00, 6:35, 9:05
Thurs: 1:20, 4:00, 6:35, 9:05

DOUBT (PG-13)

Fri: 3:15, 6:00, 8:30
Sat.-Mon: 12:45, 3:15, 6:00, 8:30
Tues/Wed: 3:15, 6:00, 8:30
Thurs: 12:45, 3:15, 6:00, 8:30

WWW.GRANDCINEMA.COM